

We Claim:

1. A refrigerator, comprising:

a housing surrounding at least one interior space;

a low temperature generator for cooling said interior space;

a control device for receiving a target value signal and controlling a temperature of said interior space to a target temperature represented by a target value signal, by controlling operation of said low temperature generator; and

a control element sending said target value signal to said control device with a level varying according to a prescribed course.

2. The refrigerator according to claim 1, wherein said prescribed course controls a monotonic fall or rise of said target temperature.

3. The refrigerator according to claim 2, wherein said prescribed course controls a temperature change at a constant rate on average until a final temperature is reached.

4. The refrigerator according to claim 1, wherein said prescribed course includes a number of steps, each with a constant level during that step.
5. The refrigerator according to claim 1, which further comprises an operating element associated with said control element for permitting a user to specify a final target temperature at an end of said prescribed course.
6. The refrigerator according to claim 1, which further comprises an operating element associated with said control element for permitting a user to specify a mean rate of change of said target temperature during said prescribed course.
7. The refrigerator according to claim 3, wherein said rate is between 0.5 and 3 K/h.
8. The refrigerator according to claim 6, wherein said rate is between 0.5 and 3 K/h.
9. The refrigerator according to claim 1, which further comprises a display element for indicating that an end of said prescribed course has been achieved.